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SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 1903.

Daily Calendar of American History.

August 23.

1776—King George III issued a procla-
mation for suppression of rebellion
and sedition in the Colonies.1819—Commander Oliver Hazard Perry
died in West Indies islands of yellow
fever.1870—Irish national congress assembled
at Cincinnati.1886—A. K. Cutting, an American editor
in Mexico, imprisoned by the author-
ities for libeling a native, re-
leased.1888—President submitted message out-
lining a plan of retaliation in the
matter of the fishery treaty.1890—Body of Capt. John Ericsson sent
to Sweden on United States ship
Baltimore.

Gen. John C. Black.

Politics Ignored in the Selection of the
New Chief of the Grand Army.

In the selection of Gen. John Charles Black as its commander-in-chief, the Grand Army of the Republic has ignored politics and paid a deserved honor to a distinguished comrade and gallant soldier. A native of the far South, which section was in many ways endeared to him, he nevertheless entered the Union army and fought bravely throughout the struggle. For a number of years before the outbreak of the war he had resided in Illinois, from which State he enlisted as a private and rose to the rank of colonel with a brevet of brigadier general.

General Black has long been in the foremost ranks of the Grand Army, and would no doubt have been placed at its head before this time had it not been for the fact that he was, as he still is, a Democrat. His elevation to that position now is an indication that politics is playing but a small part in the affairs of the organization. So long a period of time has elapsed since the close of the civil war that altogether new issues have arisen to divide men's thoughts on political subjects, and while all are in accord in their opinions as to the questions involved in the days of '61 to '65, when the preservation of the Union was paramount, the veterans can now entertain widely diverging views upon public questions of today without subjecting themselves to the charge of a lack of patriotism or of disloyalty to the cause for which they fought.

General Black entered the army a Democrat, and when he emerged from the conflict he affiliated with the Democratic party. He has remained a Democrat, and his party has several times honored him with office. Upon all occasions he has been steadfast in his fidelity to the organization of which he has just been made the head. General Black's administration of the Pension Bureau during the first Cleveland term was such that no old soldier could justly complain of the treatment accorded him. As a member of the House he was the consistent friend of the old veteran and the advocate of his rights. The Grand Army is to be commended for its action in unanimously electing him as its commander-in-chief.

The Paper-Clad Man.

German Inventor Offers a Novel Re-
form in Dress.

Philosophy must needs pause in gentle contemplation of this latest news from Germany. The Paper-Clad Man is on the way, and he who is of an earnest and receptive nature and well-grounded in philosophy will await the issue with a serene mind, believing that all things are for good, and that humanity is, as Mr. Carnegie has observed, tending toward higher ground.

It seems that some German genius has discovered a way of making paper clothes. No more shall man be slave to the cocoon of the silkworm, or the wool which grows upon the sheep's back. In pulp he shall have found a friend in need, and one to be depended upon in fine weather or foul. No more shall he be clothed in purple or fine linen, but in the product of the paper mills shall he meet

the demands of decency and comfort. It is very interesting news. There is so much opportunity in paper.

The mind's eyes can see the man of the future entering a shop and asking for a new suit of paper clothes. In a trice his measure will be taken. The wheels will turn; the mullage, paste, pins, string, or whatever it is to hold the various parts of his garments together, will be cunningly applied, and presently he will sally forth arrayed in chaste white or black, or in gay colors resembling those of the Sunday "comics."

In the happy days to come a man need never wear the same raiment twice, for the paper clothing must, of course, be inexpensive. In the summer time he will find need of fabrics so like gossamer that a dozen suits will scarcely fill one side of his portfolio, and a bathing suit will weigh the fractional portion of an ounce. In winter clothing light but impervious to the weather will be supplied. Many of us know by experience how much warmth there is in an old newspaper worn between the upper and the nether coat. In fact, it seems as if the German inventor had struck the long-felt want. If he has, the phrase "made in Germany" must no more be used as a term of opprobrium and reproach.

The General Staff.

Its Operations Promise Better Business
Methods in the Army.

Although a few days only have elapsed since the army general staff was installed, there are indications already that its operations will be successful. The plan is modeled after the systems used in the countries of Europe, which maintain large standing armies, and its scope is capable of extension, should the necessity arise at any time for increasing our military force beyond its present numbers.

The need of such an organization as the general staff has long been felt in civilian as well as military circles. In theory the idea approaches perfection in the maintenance of good discipline, and in practice its results can but prove better than the old system it displaces, and which time out of mind has been productive of enmity between the titular military head of the army and the civilian chief of the War Department. These two have almost always worked at cross purposes, and at times the breach between them has been wide. The commanding general of the army as such has been little more than a figurehead, and not infrequently his name has been attached to orders which he never saw until after they were published.

The office of "commanding general," which was more honorary than important in the administration of the affairs of the army, is now abolished, and in its stead there is created a chief of staff who is virtually the agent of the President in the execution of the orders of the constitutional Commander-in-chief of the Army, acting through the Secretary of War. If at any time there is a lack of harmony between the chief of staff and his superior, the Secretary of War, the chief of staff is expected to ask to be relieved. Another commendable feature of the plan is the provision that the chief of staff shall vacate his office with the incoming of each Administration, so that the President may be at liberty to appoint an officer who will be in full sympathy and accord with him and his views. He can hold his office for a term no longer than four years, at the end of which time, if not retired, he is to return to the line. The same is true of his subordinates. This rotation in office is destined to prevent the building up of a bureaucracy, and to give all officers of the line an opportunity for service upon the general staff.

The scheme is further calculated to centralize power and to avert a conflict of authority. Where the several bureaus of the department have heretofore acted independently of each other, thus not infrequently causing confusion, embarrassing entanglements and delays, there is to be co-operation and concerted effort. This can but be beneficial to the service and promote its efficiency.

The need of a general staff was emphasized during the Spanish-American war, and its adoption now is one of the results of the experience gained in that brief but costly conflict. Hereafter better business methods will be employed in the conduct of the affairs of the army in times of war and peace.

Doubtless the system is capable of some improvement. Many believed at the time the measure creating the general staff was drafted, and still believe, that the provision abolishing the Inspector General's Corps should have been retained. Instead, through the efforts of General Breckinridge, it was stricken out. The workings of the present scheme will, within a short

time, determine whether General Breckinridge was right or wrong in this respect. If the plan in this regard proves to be defective, there should be no difficulty in remedying it and making other changes which time and experience may suggest.

City Men in the Country.

The Chances They Have of Succeeding
as Farmers.

A Brooklyn man, with more optimism than information to all appearances, writes to a New York paper about what he calls the drift of the city population to the country. He says that a great many city men who have failed to win the prizes of business have gone to the country, purchased abandoned farms, and "with the aid of science and a willingness to try new methods, have made crops grow where little but stones grew before." He says this is as it should be.

Perhaps it is one of those things which ought to come to pass, but if any trusting city man ventures to purchase an abandoned farm on the strength of this information, he will be sadder and wiser before the year is out. It is undoubtedly true that a good many city folk are drifting toward the country, lured by the low prices of homes there and the peace and quiet of rural life, and this, in certain circumstances, is a very good thing. It gives the children a chance to grow up in pure air, and with room for exercise, and to learn all the manifold lessons which woods and fields can teach. But it ought to be stated fairly and plainly to any city man thinking of buying a farm, that the chances of his being able to make a good living on it are about one in ten; in the case of a so-called "abandoned farm" about one in a hundred.

The owners of such farms who have succeeded in making them put on a prosperous appearance have done so by spending ten dollars to every one which they got out of the place. The really prosperous farmers—the men who make their farms pay, lay up money, and send their sons and daughters to college or technical schools—are the men born and reared on the soil, who have kept their eyes open, and added to the old-fashioned learning of their fathers some knowledge of chemistry and scientific agriculture. But without the old-fashioned training, the scientific information would have been of little value. It is as true now as it ever was, that

He who by the plow would thrive
Himself must either hold or drive.

This, of course, does not apply to all the farming regions of the country. On a Western ranch or a Southern plantation, for example, the master need not actually do manual labor; it is enough for him to know how it ought to be done, and to have executive ability. But even then he needs a good deal of that knowledge which is absorbed in early life almost unconsciously, and becomes a sort of instinct. And for the farmer who undertakes to carry on one of the small holdings in the New England or Middle States, where profit must depend not on the raising of one crop, but on diversified industries of cattle-breeding, poultry-keeping, vegetable-raising, and haymaking, where labor is scarce and the climate uncertain, the master of the farm must not only know how the work should be done, but he is likely to be obliged to do a good deal of it himself. A farm, for a city man, is a very interesting and expensive plaything, but not much of an investment.

A Denver man writes "reversible" poetry; that is, the lines may be read either up or down without destroying the sense. That's nothing. Alfred Austin has long been able to write poetry which might be read any old way without making any difference in the sense.

Sir Thomas Lipton's confidence seems to be of the James K. Polk variety.

The Massachusetts Democrats, too, are disposed to "stand pat"—at least, they intend to select the Hon. Patrick A. Collins, mayor of Boston, as chairman of their State convention.

Yes, Cordelia; the czar did "talk Turkey" to the Sultan, but from that you should not judge that he speaks the Ottoman language.

Governor Lanham, of Texas, has appointed eighty-six colonels on his staff, all of whom must have new uniforms. What an opportunity this would be for Mr. Schwab, had he decided to start that tailoring trust.

A Georgia mob lynched a white man and a negro recently. Evidently they drew the clothes line rather than the color line in this instance.

The President is not the only ruler who has had a naval display; one has also been provided for Abdul Hamid which will cost him nearly as much as did Roosevelt's.

It is to be hoped that the recent hurricane did not destroy all the ginger plant and rum blossoms in Jamaica.

Pleasant Paths.

A brown bee sipin' honey
From a daisy in the dew;
A mokin' bird, breakin' deep in bloom,
Sings 'twit' 'twit' to you!
—Atlanta Constitution.

Courts and Capitals of the Old World

By THE MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

Disciple of Tolstoy.

Anarchy has so frequently been alleged to be a form of mental aberration, and heretofore treated as such, that it is rather interesting to find one of the greatest houses of the Hungarian aristocracy and the courts of law in the dominions of Emperor Francis Joseph giving a practical application to this theory. Some time ago young Count Erwin Batthyany, in the course of his travels abroad, happened to make the acquaintance in England of Prince Peter Krapotkin, the Russian revolutionary leader and anarchist, and for the space of nearly three years remained his constant companion, friend, and disciple. In this way the young count, who is wealthy, possessing great estates in the Eisenburg district of Hungary, became imbued with such a profound admiration for Count Tolstoy that he determined to apply the latter's ideas to his own possessions in the Magyar Kingdom.

Whereas the Russian government, in spite of its reputation for political intolerance, permits Count Tolstoy to put into practice his socialistic and anarchistic theories on his estates near Moscow, and to preach his doctrines both by his utterances and by his writings, without let or hindrance, the Hungarian government, which is both liberal and parliamentary, would not hear of any such thing within its borders, and taking counsel with the members of the Batthyany family, not only proceeded to place the friend of Krapotkin and the follower of Tolstoy, young Count Erwin Batthyany "under curatel," that is to say, to judicially deprive him of all control and administration of his estates and fortune, as well as of his civil rights, as if he were a lunatic or minor, but likewise procured from the courts his commitment to the asylum for the insane at Budapest.

Parliament to Act.

As many of his friends and associates who are not members of the aristocracy insist that he is perfectly sane, and fully competent to manage his own affairs, the treatment to which he has been subjected is about to be brought before the Hungarian parliament, in which he occupied a seat as one of the members of the house of lords. But it is doubtful if this intervention in his behalf will prove of any avail, and it is probable that he will be kept in close confinement until he makes up his mind to renounce his belief in the doctrines of Prince Peter Krapotkin and of Count Tolstoy.

It is strange that no one as yet seems to have been struck by the analogy of the ideas of Count Tolstoy with those of the famous nihilist leader, Prince Peter Krapotkin. In fact, Count Tolstoy is as much of a revolutionist in his way as Krapotkin, and has certainly by means of his remarkable writings done far more to promote discontent with the present condition of affairs in Russia than Krapotkin. This being the case, his treatment by the czar and by his government can only be considered as liberal in the extreme, and it is but right and proper that attention should be called to the matter.

Other Titled Socialists.

It must not be imagined for one moment that Count Tolstoy, Prince Peter Krapotkin, and Count Erwin Batthyany are the only socialists and anarchists of patrician birth and of great inherited wealth who have endeavored to give a practical application to the doctrines which they profess. Thus there is Prince Victor Nakachidze of Russia, who only a short time ago was expelled from Italy at the request of the Russian government, and the son of the late Duke and Duchess of Galliera, who declines to make use of his father's title and who refused to accept a cent of their vast fortune. Then there is his friend, Henri Rochefort, by birth the Marquis de Rochefort, and Maurice de Talleyrand-Perigord, Duke de Diao, a French nobleman who enjoys the distinction of having been divorced by two American wives in succession, and Lord Lovelace, grandson of the poet Lord Byron, who considered it to be his duty for several years to work for his living as a day laborer, and could be seen wielding his pick and wheeling his barrow along with other burly laboring men during the construction of the London and Southwestern Railroad.

This list, by the way, possesses a certain interest to people on this side of the Atlantic by reason of his engagement to the American novelist, Lulu Fletcher, the author of "Kismet" and of other popular works. The match was broken off within a couple of days after the wedding, and in one of her subsequent books the fair author and playwright, under the guise of fiction, is asserted to have taken revenge in print for the faithlessness of her noble lover.

Pope as Peacemaker.

One of the first acts of the new Pope was to restore peace in a family the domestic differences of which, by reason of its rank, have attracted much attention in the past. It may be remembered that last year the Royal Infanta Beatrice of Spain, one of the younger daughters of Don Carlos, and wife of Don Fabrizio Massimo, Princess of Rostov, attempted to commit suicide by throwing herself in the Tiber in consequence of the unhappiness of her marriage. The princess was rescued but not reconciled. Pius X has known her from childhood, for the home of the Don Carlos has been in Venice for nearly a quarter of a century, and the new Pope while Patriarch of Venice was not merely a frequent visitor at the Loredan Palace, but also may be described as having been the chief spiritual adviser of the Spanish pretender and of his family. Pius X, therefore, was intimately acquainted with all the troubles of the Infanta Beatrice, and as soon as he became Pope he took advantage of the fact that old Prince Massimo and his sons were among the principal members of his court, to summon Don Fabrizio to his

presence. There the young nobleman found his wife, and the Holy Father did not allow them to leave his audience chamber until they had become completely reconciled to one another.

The elder brother of Don Fabrizio, who bears the title of Prince Arsoi, is married to a girl who has American blood in her veins, herself a daughter of Princess von Brancaccio, of New York. Princess Arsoi spent the whole of the winter of 1901-1902 in this country, chiefly in New York and Washington, for the purpose of visiting the kinsfolk of her American mother.

Prerogative That Has Lapsed.

Among the old prerogatives of the English crown that have been allowed to lapse in recent years is that known by the name of "deadand." According to the terms thereof every "instrument" which by accident became the immediate cause of the loss of human life was declared forfeited to the crown on the understanding that the proceeds derived from its sale should be devoted to pious purposes. It was the coroner's jury assembled to investigate the causes of the fatal accident which was required to pronounce the "instrument" responsible for the loss of life forfeit to the sovereign.

In the early days of railroads the coroner's jury finding that the confiscation of locomotives guilty of causing death would interfere with traffic, contented themselves with inflicting fines upon the engines, and, for instance, it is on record that a locomotive on the Liverpool and Manchester line, which by exploding caused the death of its engineer and fireman in the early days of the reign of Queen Victoria, was fined by the coroner's jury a sum of no less than \$10,000. Now that the railroad companies are obliged to pay such heavy damages to the victims of accidents on their lines, the old sovereign prerogative of "deadand" (concerning which a reader has written to ask me a question), has been allowed to lapse.

Ordered Knife for Pie.

Prof. George Lincoln Burr, of Cornell, who is making a tour of New England on his bicycle in order to gather facts about witchcraft, is an authority on the history of superstition and persecution, and he is also an indefatigable wheelman. Prof. Burr, with his bicycle, has penetrated many primitive and secluded parts of the United States.

From these journeys he returns with little stories that are now quaint, now strange, now humorous. A story of the last named sort concerns a visit to Tennessee.

"I arrived one night at a mountaineer's cabin," said the professor, "and asked for shelter for the night. The good people were hospitable. They gave me a comfortable bed and an excellent meal."

"While I was eating the meal my host watched me narrowly, to see that I had everything that I wanted. He kept ordering his wife to fill my glass, to bring me some more bread, and so forth. Finally, when I began to eat a piece of apple pie, he exclaimed in an indignant tone:

"'Jane, why don't you bring the gentleman a knife? Do you see him here, tryin' to eat his pie with a fork?'"—New York Tribune.

In a Lighter Vein.

Too Tonic.

A man to whom illness was chronic when told that he needed a tonic, said, "Oh, doctor, dear, won't you please make it beer?" "No, no," said the doc, "that's Teutonic."

Arranged For.

Bad Man—Have you killed your man?
Cholly Gotro—Aw, no. Me chauffeur attends to all that, ye know.—Judge.

Hopeless Case.

"If you weren't so lazy you wouldn't be so pessimistic."
"Oh, nonsense."
"Why don't you make hay while the sun shines, and—"

"Huh! If I tried to do that it'd just be my luck to get sunstruck!"—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Onto His Curses.

"Jones, what is the difference between you and a man that's dead broke?"

"None at all, old man. I can't lend you a cent."—Houston Post.

"Joshing" the Parson.

"My friend, are you a Christian?" asked an aged Baptist minister of the man who was sharing his seat in a suburban train.

"Sure!" said the man.

"What denomination, might I ask?" from the minister, beaming kindly.

"Baptist," said the man, and he was as much that as anything else.

"Then you have been impressed, of course," observed the man of the cloth.

"No, never impressed," replied the man, but, seeing the look of disappointment on the other's face, he added: "I have been soaked several times."

That seat was silent until the train reached Yonkers, when the minister left it.—New York Tribune.

Except to Die.

Old De Whiskers—I have had my life insured for \$50,000 in your favor. Is there anything else I can do to please you?
Mrs. De Whiskers—Nothing on earth, dear.—San Francisco Wasp.

Hanna Saw a Queer Sign.

"A queer notice caught my eye in front of a bookseller's shop the other day," said Senator Hanna, "and for a long time I couldn't make it out. It was like this. See if you can make it out."

The Senator then copied the bookeller's notice on a leaf of his notebook, as follows:

King Baby.

King Baby on his throne
Sits reigning O!
King Baby on his throne
Sits reigning O!
His throne is Mother's knee,
So tender O, so loyal O!
His throne is Mother's knee,
Where none may sit but he.

His crown it is of gold,
So curly O, so curly O!
His crown it is of gold,
In shining tresses coiled.
His kingdom is my heart,
So loyal O, so loyal O!
His kingdom is my heart,
His own in every part.
Divine are all his laws,
So simple O, so simple O!
Divine are all his laws,
With Love for end and cause.

King Baby on his throne
Sits reigning O!
King Baby on his throne
Sits reigning O!
Sits reigning alone,
—Laurens Alma-Tadema in Philadelphia Bulletin.

Political Gossip Here and There

Senator Money for Vardaman.

Senator Money, who is assured of reelection to the Senate, having defeated Governor Longino in the first Mississippi primary, has announced himself in favor of Major Vardaman for governor in the second contest, made necessary by reason of the fact that none of the candidates for that office received a majority of the votes cast in the first primary or in the State electoral college.

During the campaign Senator Money took no part in the fight over the governorship, as he then had troubles of his own in the struggle with Governor Longino for election to the Senate. With that matter now settled in his favor, he doubtless feels at liberty to express his preference for governor, and has accordingly written a letter strongly endorsing the candidacy of Major Vardaman, the radical aspirant for the governorship, who made the negro question the leading issue of his campaign.

Mississippi Senators Divided.

He speaks of Major Vardaman as "a man with brains to see the vital question of the hour and the manhood to declare his opinions; a man who will discharge the functions of his office for the glory and the industrial interest of our Commonwealth and who cannot be controlled by bad influences in the discharge of the duties of his office; a man who unites in a pre-eminent degree intellectual, moral and physical courage."

The two Mississippi Senators are thus divided over the question as to whom the next governor of the State shall be. Senator McLaurin having recently announced himself a supporter of Judge Critz, who was second in the first race. The second primary, which is to be held on August 27, promises to be fully as exciting as the first, and the friends of both candidates are confident that their respective favorites will win. At this distance it looks as though Major Vardaman would come out of the fight the victor.

"Lou" Payn's Obstructed Vision.

The Hon. "Lou" Payn, the most prominent anti-Roosevelt Republican of the Empire State, has returned to New York from a trip through the West, and reports that he "saw very little genuine Roosevelt sentiment."

In view of this statement, the impression prevails that the Hon. "Lou" must either have been wearing smoked glasses or had his eyes bandaged. He speaks of having visited counting rooms, and there found no one who was enthusiastic for the nomination of the President.

But the statement of Mr. Payn must be taken with a very liberal discount for the reason that he is extremely biased. Everybody in New York State knows of the disagreement between Mr. Roosevelt, when he was governor of the State, and Mr. Payn, which cost the latter a "fat" job, and doubtless increased the admiration of the public for the governor.

Predicts Roosevelt's Defeat.

Ever since that time Mr. Payn has lost no opportunity to speak disparagingly of the President and to predict that he will be defeated—that even a "yellow dog" on the Democratic ticket could carry New York against Roosevelt.

Notwithstanding, Mr. Payn is forced to admit that he heard no other man mentioned in connection with the Republican nomination. "But," says the Hon. "Lou," "that doesn't signify anything."

Certainly not; surely not, when taken into consideration with the opinions of Mr. Payn and his remarkable discovery that there is no Roosevelt sentiment in the West. The only conclusion to be drawn is that the considerate Westerners, knowing Mr. Payn's enmity toward the President, refrained while he was in their presence from any mention of the President, and that Payn took that as an indication that the Roosevelt sentiment does not exist.

Poor "Lou"—it is really too bad he lost that job. It has affected his vision.

Pointed Political Opinion

Chicago Chronicle—Mr. Quay insists that reports of his death are greatly exaggerated, and his statement is entitled to full consideration. It may be pointed out, in confirmation of his assertion, that, whatever may have been said against him, nobody has ever charged him with being a dead one.

Boston Transcript—Col. Henry Watterson has seized the campaign for 1904. Neither Cleveland nor Bryan can be nominated, and if Bryan bolts, not a corporal's guard will follow him. The Democratic nomination will go to Gorman, Parker, or Gray, and whoever is the nominee he will be elected over President Roosevelt.

Philadelphia Inquirer—"Spectacularism," as defined by David B. Hill, is "a sort of disease which expands the head and contracts the conscience." Now we know why the cartoonists have always depicted Mr. Hill with a hat several sizes too small for him.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat—Colonel Bryan makes a good defense of his vote for Weaver in 1892 by declaring that from his standpoint it was either Weaver or Cleveland.

Chattanooga Press—The most conspicuous thing developed in Chairman Thompson's census of Democratic opinion in Tennessee is that it is immutable. If the machinery should be restarted where it stopped short—at 16 to 1—it would play the same old tunes with as much glee as in the days of 1896.

Newport News Times-Herald—Senator Tillman says the silver plank in the Kansas City platform must be retained. Of course, let it stay in that platform, but it will never get in another.

Hartford Times—If New York and New Jersey go for Grover Cleveland next year, is there any question where Connecticut will be found? These three States may again give their electoral votes to a Democrat a good deal sooner than some people expect.

Montgomery Advertiser—The Democrats are going to get together on vital issues, and they are going to nominate a real live Democrat to carry out the party's will, and they are going to give Roosevelt the biggest scare of his life, even if they fail to land.

LAKE SURFACE RISES EVERY SEVEN YEARS

Peculiar Phenomenon Known in Indiana
Many Years.

With neither outlet nor inlet that is at any time visible, Lake Cloot, a small body of water in Cass county, has now reached a height which it attains every seven years, and hundreds of acres of fine corn land are now covered by several feet of water. The rural mail route, which runs along the lake's banks, has been abandoned by the carrier, for the water covers it to a depth of three feet and stretches beyond for several hundred yards.

Lake Cloot has been an interesting phenomenon to the people of Northern Indiana for many years, but the secret of its rise and fall has never been discovered. It is the only lake in Cass county, and is about one mile wide and about one mile long. The water is clear and cold and perfectly fresh. Its most mysterious characteristic is the fact that it overflows its banks every seventh year. The farmers who own the land upon its banks have become so used to this that they never attempt to cultivate the land in the seventh year, but give it up without a protest, as they know it is sure to be claimed by the waters.

The Pottawatomie Indians, who inhabited what is now Cass and adjoining counties, were familiar with the characteristic of the lake. They believed that its bottom was inhabited by a powerful spirit, which at intervals of seven years caused the lake to overflow. They construed this action as approval of the tribe by the spirit, and watched anxiously for the time to come, for they saw in the rising waters a sure indication that they had done nothing to displease it.

The early white settlers became acquainted with the legend, and the oldest inhabitant is not able to recall a time that the overflow did not take place when expected.

The water has now reached its highest point, and will soon begin to recede and continue to do so until the old confines are reached. Residents of the locality say that the weather conditions have no effect upon the lake, for its rise in the seventh year takes place regardless of the fact of rain or drought. Amos Jordan, a veteran of the civil war, who lives on a bluff overlooking the lake, says the only apparent difference between wet and dry seasons when the rise occurs is that the water appears to be colder in time of drought. What is true of the rise of the waters is also true of their recession, for they gradually disappear, regardless of the amount of rainfall in the county.

The phenomenon is explained on the theory that there is a subterranean outlet, which becomes closed in some way and is opened by the pressure of the water when the highest point is reached every seventh year, but this is mere guesswork, and nothing has ever been discovered to justify such a theory. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which owns a number of leve